

9/ **Pre Patent Application of**

Group Art Unit: 3681

Examiner: HA DINH HO

Confirmation No.: 4820

**For: CARRIER AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING CARRIER**

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(3)

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

The above-identified application is a divisional application of parent Application Serial No. 09/783,992. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3), applicants respectfully request acceptance of a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 for the benefit of prior-filed U.S. Application Serial No. 09/783,992 filed on February 16, 2001. Accompanying this Petition is an Amendment which includes a proper reference to the prior-filed application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the entire delay between February 22, 2004, the date by which the claim for priority was due under 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2)(ii), and the date of the accompanying Amendment was unintentional. The surcharge required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(t) is enclosed.

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01 FC:1454

1330.00 CP

Adjustment date: 11/05/2004 AKELLEY
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Repln. Ref: 11/05/2004 AKELLEY 0009140500
DA#:024800 Name/Number:10180916
FC: 9204 \$1330.00 CR

VA 389266.1

Should any questions arise in connection with this matter, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: September 28, 2004

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